



CITY OF
ARROYO GRANDE
CALIFORNIA

February 24, 2012

Urban Streams Restoration Program
Attn. Jerry Snow
P.O. BOX 942836
Sacramento, CA 94236-0001

Re: City of Arroyo Grande - Corbett Canyon Floodplain and Stream
Restoration Project - DWR USRP

Dear Mr. Snow:

I am writing to express our earnest support for the Urban Streams Restoration Grant. The City remains proactive and diligent in the implementation of measures to remedy existing and predicted problems concerning flood control and environmental degradation within the Arroyo Grande Creek Watershed, particularly within and downstream of our City.

We have sponsored and participated in numerous watershed related studies including the "Arroyo Grande Creek Watershed Management Plan", 2005; the "Arroyo Grande Creek Erosion, Sedimentation and Flooding Alternatives Study" by Swanson Hydrology and Geomorphology, 2006; and the City's "Creek Resource Protection Study", 2007, and the Tally Ho Hydrologic and hydraulic studies and Clark property topographic survey and site analysis. Additionally, the City authored and is pursuing endorsements of a multi-agency/stakeholder Arroyo Grande Creek Watershed Memorandum of Understanding in order to promote coordination and cooperation for proactive watershed management. Interagency groups, including City staff, Coastal San Luis RCD, Central Coast Salmon Enhancement and the NRCS recognized the desirability of developing a comprehensive plan for restoration and enhancement of Corbett Creek.

In order to implement improvements that have been studied, prioritized and determined necessary for the protection of the City's flood corridor, the City is respectively applying for funds through the Urban Streams Restoration Program.

The grant would help fund acquisition of a conservation easement for the provision of restoration/sedimentation reduction to detain peak flows and chronic fine sediment loading at the confluence of Tally Ho/Corbett Canyon and Carpenter Canyon Creeks on a portion of a 15-acre site (Clark property) within the City of Arroyo Grande. The project objective will:

- ❖ Attenuate peak stream flows to provide flood protection to downstream properties, including both the Tally Ho neighborhood immediately downstream and the Zone 1/1A flood control district.
- ❖ Maximize on-site sediment retention in the enhanced floodplain to protect downstream steelhead habitat and improve flood protection
- ❖ Enhance and/or create additional wetland and riparian habitat.

This property is currently zoned to allow residential housing, and is one of the largest remaining open space parcels in AG City limits. The landowner is interested in placing 7 to 9 acres of the property into a open space conservation easement, and participating in floodplain restoration project. This site was identified in the 2006 "Arroyo Grande Creek Erosion, Sedimentation and Flooding Alternatives Study" as a priority site for potential floodplain restoration and sediment retention.

The City of Arroyo Grande has funded design components and appraisals, the Coastal San Luis RCD is providing planning, permitting and coordination functions, and the State Coastal Conservancy has confirmed commitment in providing match funding for easement acquisition and implementation.

I believe that this project meets the intent of the Urban Streams Restoration Program. Please continue to give the City's application serious consideration.

Sincerely,



Teresa McClish, AICP
Community Development Director

cc: Nicole Smith, Coastal San Luis Resource Conservation District